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## **Governor Susana Martinez Announces Nearly 200 New Jobs at Four Companies in Roswell and Chaves County**

*The Governor also celebrated construction groundbreaking at AGPower, a producer of alternative energy from agricultural wastes*

**Dexter** - Governor Martinez announced today the creation of nearly 200 new jobs in Roswell and Chaves County at four companies: AGPower, Leprino Foods, Stewart Industries and Dean Baldwin Painting. Combines, the companies will create 183 new jobs in Southeast New Mexico across a variety of job sectors.

“We’ve improved the regulatory environment and balanced the state budget to create a sense of certainty in our state. We’ve also improved the tax environment so that job creators will invest further in New Mexico,” said Governor Susana Martinez. “I am happy to welcome these new opportunities for New Mexico families.”

**AGPower – 20 jobs.** Chaves Country passed \$20 million in IRBs to facilitate phase one of AGPower’s Field Processing construction. AGpower is a wholly-owned subsidiary of SID International, and this will be their first project in New Mexico. AGPower will provide solutions to the environmental concerns related directly to manure management for agricultural units such as dairies, hog farms and chicken farms. They will produce biomethane from the abundance of animal waste.

**Leprino Foods – 13 jobs.** Leprino Foods is the world's largest mozzarella cheese producer. Their cheese is found in many well-known pizzerias, restaurants, private label packages, and frozen foods. The company has 12 manufacturing plants that support global sales to over 40 countries. The average wage is \$13.72 an hour. Leprino is expanding its operations in the Roswell area. The company has substantially upgraded its facilities, as well as added production to an additional shift within the plant. The new jobs are to ensure that Leprino can meet the increased production, as well as the demand of new technologies in its equipment.

**Stewart Industries – 50 jobs.** Stewart Industries is an aircraft salvage and recycling operation that has been a tenant in the Roswell International Air Center for many years. The company recently received FAA C-Check approval and completed renovations to their hangar which will allow them to now provide aircraft maintenance and repair services. This expansion will include the hiring of 50 well-paid A&P mechanics with possible additional expansions in the future. Stewart Industries is headquartered in Guthrie, Oklahoma.

**Dean Baldwin Painting – 100 jobs.** Dean Baldwin Painting (DBP) is about to start a \$1.3 million dollar expansion to upgrade its hangar complex. Part of the monies are from a CDBG grant that the city of Roswell helped secure. Construction should be completed by the end of the 1st quarter of 2014. These upgrades will help Dean Baldwin Painting retain the jobs that they currently have and open the doors for new customers to ensure work for current and future employees. They are adding 60 jobs at an average hourly wage of \$17.63. DBP added 40 new jobs in the last two months. DBP has a total head count of 120 employees and a solid customer base which includes American Airlines, Jet Blue, Sky West, US Airways, and DHL. The company plans to continue to work with the local school district and Eastern New Mexico Roswell Campus to develop the workforce of tomorrow.

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